

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 277958

FOR COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR

E.O11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, BIE

SUBJECT: BUREAU OF INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITIONS: 1977
BUDGET

REF: STATE 245797; PARIS 29186, 32881 (1975)

1. BUDGET FOR 1977 AS APPROVED BY ADMINISTRATIVE AND
BUDGET COMMITTEE MAY BE SUPPORTED BY U.S. DELEGATION AT
NOVEMBER 17 MEETING OF 80TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY. PROSPECT
OF NO INCREASE IN CONTRIBUTORY UNIT (AFTER 30 PERCENT
INCREASE LAST YEAR) WITH A POSSIBLE SURPLUS IN OVERALL
BUDGET IS HIGHLY WELCOME. WE ARE PLEASED THAT CONTRI-
BUTORY UNIT TO REMAIN AT 1300 FRENCH FRANCS WITH U.S.
PAYING 65,000 FF AGAIN NEXT YEAR.

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2. WE UNDERSTAND THAT INCREASE IN 1977 EXPENSES (\$92,110 FF VICE 521,089 FF OR 13.6 PERCENT) RESULTED IN NO INCREASE IN CONTRIBUTORY UNIT BECAUSE OF PAYMENT OF 65,000 FF (EQUIVALENT TO HIGHEST ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP ASSESSMENT) BY LOS ANGELES 1981 EXPOSITION GROUP, ACCESSION OF EAST GERMANY TO MEMBERSHIP WITH 17.5 PART ASSESSMENT, AND PAYMENT IN FULL OF BACK ASSESSMENTS BY TANZANIA (TO 1967) AND NIGERIA (TO 1970). APPARENTLY ONLY LEBANON AND HAITI REMAIN ON THE ARREARS LIST.

3. WE QUESTION BIE DECISION TO CONTINUE TO EXCLUDE NIGERIA (3 PARTS) AND TANZANIA (1 PART) FROM CALCULATION OF DUES IN VIEW OF THEIR RETURN TO GOOD FINANCIAL STANDING IN THE BIE. WHILE IT MAY NOT BE REALISTIC TO CALCULATE ASSESSMENTS ON FULL 466.5 UNITS IN VIEW OF UNLIKELINESS OF LEBANON (3 PARTS) AND HAITI (1 PART) PAYING OFF THEIR INDEBTEDNESS, SOUND MANAGEMENT WOULD SEEM TO DICTATE PLACING NIGERIA AND TANZANIA IN THE SAME CATEGORY AS OTHER STATES. SURELY THE BIE SHOULD NO LONGER GIVE THEM THE IDEA THAT THEY ARE NOT EXPECTED TO PAY THEIR DUES. YOUR DISCREET WORK IN ENCOURAGING ALL BIE MEMBERS TO PAY THEIR FAIR SHARE IS APPRECIATED HERE.

4. WE ASSUME FINAL PART OF OUR 1976 ASSESSMENT WAS PAID AS AUTHORIZED STATE 24797. KISSINGER

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